

they failed to challenge the prosecution's "junk science" and flawed DNA evidence or to present expert testimony on Leal's learning disabilities and brain damage. Leal, sentenced to death for the 1994 rape and murder of a 16-year-old girl, was then 21 and had no criminal record.

Also, there is no dispute that this treaty is the law: In 2003, Mexico filed suit against the U.S., claiming that 51 Mexican nationals sentenced to death in U.S. courts had been denied consular access. (Leal was one of them.) In 2004, the International Court of Justice ruled that the U.S. must review those individuals' cases. The issue was finally resolved, in 2008, by the U.S. Supreme Court, which unanimously supported the ICJ decision but ruled that it was up to Congress to implement it.

That is what Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy addressed last week, when he introduced legislation to allow federal courts to review such cases, and to increase compliance and provide remedies.

And finally, as Leahy eloquently stated, the U.S. failure to honor its treaty obligations "undercuts our ability to protect Americans abroad and deeply damages our image as a country that abides by its promises and the rule of law. It would also be completely unacceptable to us if our citizens were treated in this manner."

For all of these reasons, we urge Congress to act swiftly to pass this legislation, and we urge Gov. Perry to give Leal, and others in his situation, the time to benefit from its remedies if they are shown to have been harmed.

PERRY, UTAH

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the great city of Perry, UT, on the 100th anniversary of its incorporation.

Today, Perry is a beautiful city of nearly 4,000 residents nestled at the foot of northern Utah's majestic Wasatch Mountains. Its fame and acclaim are extensive for a variety of reasons.

First, it is the apple of many a person's eye because of its location on Utah's famed Fruit Way. Its fruit stands along highway 89 are laden with apples, cherries, apricots, peaches, pears and other produce. I have never found any fruit nearly so sweet in all my travels.

Perry is also home to the legendary Maddox Ranch House, where succulent steaks, fried chicken, homemade rolls and other fare have been food for thought and the palate for locals and many a weary traveler—this Senator, included—for more than six decades.

Best of all, though, are the wonderful residents of Perry. I have always been unfailingly impressed with their work ethic and civic-mindedness, their eagerness and willingness to pitch in and build a better future and community for their children and grandchildren.

They also are warm and welcoming. Whenever people pop in, they never seem to be put out. It has been my experience that they are always eager to lend a hand or extend the hand of friendship. I always feel better for being there. It doesn't hurt that my wife Elaine hails from nearby Newton.

Little wonder that every time I am in Perry I feel right at home.

Great places like Perry don't just happen. It takes vision and hard work—a trait Orrin Porter Rockwell and his brother Merritt undoubtedly had in abundance when they laid claim to a piece of land in the area adjacent Porter Spring. They were followed in 1851 by the Mormon pioneers, settlers of faith and fortitude who befriended the Native Americans there and founded what became known as Three Mile Creek.

Many milestones have come and gone since then. In 1861 the first school was built, followed by the groundbreaking for the Northern Utah Railroad 10 years later. And the settlers also weathered some adversity, including harsh winters and the Great Flood of 1896. Two years later, Three Mile Creek was renamed Perry in honor of Orrin Alonzo Perry, who served as an LDS bishop there for more than two decades.

June 19, 1911, the date of Perry's incorporation, was another major event and marked a new beginning. Over the ensuing years, the people of Perry, under the guidance of some remarkable and visionary leaders, kept right on building, bringing electricity, drinking water, a town hall and more schools to the city. Just this year, Perry added a wastewater treatment plant and a soccer park to the mix. And I trust many more chapters remain to be written in Perry's illustrious history.

As Perry celebrates its centennial over the Fourth of July weekend, I salute its visionary and hardworking citizens, both past and present, who have made the city what it is today. I am sure Orrin Porter Rockwell and Orrin Alonzo Perry would be proud. You can be certain that this Orrin is.

EXPLOITING GAPS IN U.S. GUN LAWS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I have long sought to bring attention to the dangerous gaps in U.S. gun laws, hoping the exposure would lead to the passage of commonsense firearm legislation. To those of us who feel that Congress can and should play a role in protecting American neighborhoods from the scourge of gun violence, enacting laws to ensure firearms stay out of the hands of dangerous people seems like a no-brainer. Unfortunately, the National Rifle Association, despite broad support for sensible gun safety laws among Americans across the political spectrum, has successfully blocked much-needed legislative changes.

Recently a startling new voice joined the discussion highlighting the weaknesses in our gun laws, most notably how we administer firearm background checks. Consider the following quote describing the so-called gun show loophole:

America is absolutely awash with easily obtainable firearms. You can go down to a gun show at the local convention center and

come away with a fully automatic assault rifle without a background check and, most likely, without having to show an identification card.

While this quote does not break any new ground regarding the dangers of the gun show loophole, it is noteworthy because of the person who said it. These were not the words of a Member of Congress, advocating for legislation, nor were they the words of a spokesperson of groups like Mayors Against Illegal Guns or the Brady Campaign. This quote is taken from an Internet video message recorded by Adam Gadahn, an American-born, confirmed al-Qaida operative.

In the video, Gadahn speaks to al-Qaida followers and sympathizers, describing the ease with which a person can purchase a firearm from a private seller without a background check, often with no questions asked. In fact, this video is not merely a description of the loopholes in U.S. gun laws, it is an exhortation to would-be terrorists to exploit these loopholes and kill innocent Americans. To wit, the video ends with Gadahn asking his viewers, "What are you waiting for?"

This video is a chilling reminder that dangerous loopholes exist in U.S. gun laws, weaknesses that terrorists are actively trying to exploit. While Gadahn is not entirely accurate—a person cannot purchase a "fully automatic assault" rifle at a gun show without government knowledge—he correctly describes just how simple it is for dangerous individuals to acquire deadly weapons in the United States, including semi-automatic assault rifles.

I urge my colleagues to take up and pass two gun safety bills introduced by Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG: the Gun Show Background Check Act, S. 35, which would close the loophole that makes it easy for criminals, terrorists and other prohibited buyers to evade background checks and buy guns from private citizens at gun shows; and the Denying Firearms and Explosives to Dangerous Terrorists Act, S. 34, which would close the loophole in Federal law that hinders the ability of law enforcement to keep firearms out of the hands of terrorists by authorizing the Attorney General to deny the sale of a firearm when a background check reveals that the prospective purchaser is a known or suspected terrorist.

Congressional action should not require such stark evidence that al-Qaida and like-minded criminals are trying to use weak U.S. gun laws to carry out terrorist attacks against Americans. But the evidence—clear, explicit and terrifying—is here nonetheless. The time to act is long overdue.

UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the Utah Shakespeare Festival, the Nation's premier regional theater and one of our State's crown jewels, on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.